



KAREN

AGENDA
RIO DELL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING - 6:30 P.M.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2013
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
675 WILDWOOD AVENUE, RIO DELL

WELCOME . . . By your presence in the City Council Chambers, you are participating in the process of representative government. Copies of this agenda, staff reports and other material available to the City Council are available at the City Clerk's office in City Hall, 675 Wildwood Avenue and on the City's website at riodellcity.com. Your City government welcomes your interest and hopes you will attend and participate in Rio Dell City Council meetings often.

THE TYPE OF COMMISSION BUSINESS IS IDENTIFIED IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH TITLE IN BOLD CAPITAL LETTERS.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. CEREMONIAL

1) 2013/0123.01 - Swearing in of three (3) newly appointed Planning Commissioners:
Nick Angeloff, Gordon Johnson and Billie Joe Long to three year terms
ending December 31, 2015

2) 2013/0123.02 - Selection of Planning Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

E. CONSENT CALENDAR

1) 2013/0123.03 - Approve Minutes of the November 28, 2012 Regular Meeting
(ACTION)

F. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

This time is for persons who wish to address the Commission on any matter not on this agenda and over which the Commission has jurisdiction. Items requiring Commission action not listed on this agenda may be placed on the next regular agenda for consideration if the Commission directs, unless a finding is made by at least 2/3rds of the Commission that the item came up after the agenda was posted and is of an urgency nature requiring immediate action. Please limit comments to a maximum of 3 minutes.

G. SCHEDULED MATTERS/PUBLIC HEARINGS/STUDY SESSIONS

- 1) 2013/0123.04 - 2012 Annual Planning and Building Permit Report **(RECEIVE & FILE)**
- 2) 2013/0123.05 - Approve Resolution PC 060-2013 Recommending the City Council Amend Section 17.30.260 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code to Correct an Error and Allow Illuminated Appurtenant Signs in all Commercial Zones, Including Town Center and Industrial Commercial Zones **(ACTION)**
- 3) 2013/0123.06 - Introduction of Draft Circulation Element **(RECEIVE & FILE)**

H. REPORTS/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

I. ADJOURNMENT

*The next Regular Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for
February 27, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers*

*675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA 95562*



TO: Planning Commissioners

THROUGH: Jim ~~Stretch~~, City Manager

FROM: Karen Dunham, City Clerk

DATE: January 23, 2013

SUBJECT: Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair to the Rio Dell Planning Commission

RECOMMENDATION

Vote to elect a person among the appointed voting members of the Commission to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair.

BUDGETARY IMPACT

None

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

With the resignation of Commissioner Gonzales in September, 2012, Commissioner Chapman has been serving as Acting Chair to the Planning Commission. Vacancies now exist for both the position of Chair and Vice-Chair on the Commission.

At this time, I am requesting appointments to be made to the respective seats. All members of the Commission are considered to be nominated unless a member wishes to decline nomination.

Ballots will be provided at the meeting.

**City of Rio Dell Planning Commission
Ballot for Chair/Vice-Chair
For the Term Ending December 31, 2014**

Instructions:

1. *Write your name on the ballot, in the lower left hand corner*
2. *Circle the position, Chair or Vice-Chair, that you are voting for*
3. *Circle the name of your selection for the position being voted on*
4. *Fold your ballot. Pass the completed ballot to City Clerk, Karen Dunham*

Position – Chair

Candidate

Nick Angeloff

Gary Chapman

Gordon Johnson

Billie Joe Long

Alice Millington

Should there be a tie, a second vote will occur with only the names of those who tied.

Name _____

**City of Rio Dell Planning Commission
Ballot for Chair/Vice-Chair
For the Term Ending December 31, 2014**

Instructions:

1. *Write your name on the ballot, in the lower left hand corner*
2. *Circle the position, Chair or Vice-Chair, that you are voting for*
3. *Circle the name of your selection for the position being voted on*
4. *Fold your ballot. Pass the completed ballot to City Clerk, Karen Dunham*

Position – Vice-Chair

Candidate

Nick Angeloff

Gary Chapman

Gordon Johnson

Billie Joe Long

Alice Millington

Should there be a tie, a second vote will occur with only the names of those who tied.

Name _____

RESOLUTION NO. 1127-2011
A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF RIO DELL PROVIDING A PROCEDURE FOR
APPOINTMENTS BY THE CITY COUNCIL
FOR VACANT POSITIONS ON THE CITY
COUNCIL AND COMMISSIONS

WHEREAS, the City Council is authorized under RDMC Section 2.55 to establish and by a majority vote appoint individuals to commissions, boards and committees; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to use the same system to select the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore as is used to appoint individuals to commissions, boards and committees; and

WHEREAS, when vacancies occur on the City Council and Commissions, the City Council will vote to appoint replacements for the duration of the term (or for a full term when an election is planned and less candidates file than the number of seats that will become vacant); and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires that a set of procedures be in place to formally guide the voting process;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Rio Dell that:

1. Upon notice of a vacancy, an application time period shall be designated whereby interested applicants may complete an application to fill the vacant seat.
2. Names of all qualified applicants shall be placed in nomination for the vacant Seat.
3. All Councilmembers shall be considered nominated for Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore (with the exception of the newly appointed Mayor). Any Councilmember may decline nomination for Mayor or Mayor Pro-Tempore.
4. Applicants shall be given an opportunity to make a short presentation to the Council at a public meeting.
5. At a City Council meeting where the vacancy is agendaized, each Councilmember will write the name of the applicant of their choice, and sign their ballot.
6. The ballots will be passed to the City Clerk to be counted and announced by name and for whom they voted.
7. If an applicant receives 3 or more votes, that candidate is chosen for the vacancy. Otherwise, there will be a runoff ballot between the top 2 applicants. Applicants receiving 2 votes will be placed in the runoff, and a separate vote shall be held for those receiving 1 vote if only 1 applicant has 2 votes (i.e. 2,1,1,1).

7. In the case of ties, a revote will be held.
8. After 3 ties, the Council will declare that the item be continued and placed on the next regular agenda.
9. At the next regular or special council meeting where the continued item is agendized, the Council shall re-vote up to 2 more times in the same manner as described above. In the event there is still a tie vote, the Council will declare a deadlock and reopen the application process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the procedure for establishing a system for City Council appointments to commissions, boards and committees and procedures for the selection of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore as described in Resolution Nos. 416, 625, 700, and 822-1-2002 are hereby repealed and replaced with the procedure described above.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Rio Dell on this 6th day of September, 2011 by the following vote:

AYES: Woodall, Leonard, Marks, Thompson, Wilson
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Julie Woodall, Mayor

Attest:

Karen Dunham, City Clerk

675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, Ca 95562
(707) 764-3532



OATH OF ALLEGIANCE FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT) ss.

I, **Nick Angeloff** do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the
Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California
against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance
to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California;
that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of
evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am
about to enter.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 3rd day of January, 2013.

Karen Dunham, City Clerk

Signature

675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, Ca 95562
(707) 764-3532



OATH OF ALLEGIANCE FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA) ss.
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT)

I, **Gordon Johnson** do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 3rd day of January, 2013.

Karen Dunham, City Clerk

Signature

675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, Ca 95562
(707) 764-3532



OATH OF ALLEGIANCE FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT)

ss.

I, **Billie Joe Long** do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME THIS 3rd day of January, 2013.

Karen Dunham, City Clerk

Signature

**CITY OF RIO DELL
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 28, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular meeting of the Rio Dell Planning Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Planning Commissioner Chapman.

Present were Commissioners Chapman, Angeloff, Johnson, Long and Millington.

Others present were Community Development Director Caldwell, Chief of Police Hill and City Clerk Dunham.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion was made by Angeloff/Johnson to approve the consent calendar including the approval of minutes of the September 26, 2012 regular meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None

SCHEDULED MATTERS/PUBLIC HEARINGS

Conduct Public Hearing – Adopt Resolution No. PC 059-2012 Recommending the City Council Approve and Adopt Medical Marijuana Regulations, Section 17.30.155 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC)

Community Development Director Caldwell provided a staff report and said at the direction of the City Council and assistance of the Chief of Police, he prepared a draft ordinance establishing medical marijuana regulations. He said the purpose of the ordinance is to ensure that the cultivation of medical marijuana for personal use is conducted in a manner that is consistent with State law and which promotes the health, safety, comfort, convenience, and general welfare of the residents and businesses within the City of Rio Dell.

He reported that problems associated with the indoor cultivation of marijuana include home invasion robberies, thefts, violent crimes, and fires from overloaded or improperly modified electrical systems used to power grow lights and exhaust fans for the cultivation of marijuana. It has also led to a decrease in needed rental housing stock throughout the County and Cities as rental homes are converted solely to structures to grow marijuana in, as well as excessive energy consumption to power the lights and fans. He said as rental homes are converted, the character of the neighborhood around the grow structure

**RIO DELL PLANNING COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 28, 2012 MINUTES
Page 2**

deteriorates. Another issue is that growing indoors can lead to mold, mildew and moisture damage to the structure.

Community Development Director Caldwell said staff reviewed the City of Arcata, Eureka's and the County's medical marijuana regulations and modeled the City of Rio Dell's draft ordinance from those regulations in regard to area, wattage and exception requests. He noted the recommended regulations are consistent with the adopted Humboldt County District Attorney's Prosecution Guidelines. Staff's recommendation was that the maximum area for indoor grow be limited to 50 sq. ft.; 10 ft. maximum height; maximum wattage of 1200 watts of lights and that no outdoor cultivation be allowed.

Discussion continued regarding greenhouses which Community Development Director Caldwell indicated a greenhouse is considered indoor if the structure is secure and vented and permitted as a detached accessory building.

Commissioner Johnson questioned indoor v. outdoor cultivation and asked Chief Hill which method was more problematic; Chief Hill stated that outdoor cultivation is particularly problematic because it is more visible which creates an attractive nuisance; creates more odor and presents the aspect of potential theft.

Commissioner Angeloff commented on potential contamination to the environment with outdoor cultivation and waste of electricity with indoor cultivation. He asked why the City does not require the registration of all 215 patients; Community Development Director Caldwell said patients medical records are protected under HIPPA.

Commissioner Angeloff asked if adoption of the ordinance will help the police department with enforcement of illegal growing operations; Chief Hill said it definitely will help and that the police department will be more pro-active. He said typically when the police department receives a complaint about an illegal grow, the resident will allow the police access to inspect.

Commissioner Long commented that it seems it would be more difficult to control odor if marijuana is grown in a greenhouse; Community Development Director Caldwell said greenhouses will be required to have carbon filters to reduce smell.

Commissioner Angeloff asked if passage of this ordinance could have potential impact to the City in regard to Federal funding; Community Development Director Caldwell said he discussed that with the City Attorney who said the Federal Government tends to target jurisdictions allowing dispensaries.

**RIO DELL PLANNING COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 28, 2012 MINUTES
Page 3**

Discussion continued regarding whether to allow for exception provisions to allow grow areas larger than 50 sq. ft. under special circumstances, and whether to allow marijuana to be grown in greenhouses.

Commissioner Johnson pointed out that he would rather see a greenhouse broken into rather than a home.

Commissioner Angeloff commented that legitimate medical marijuana growers can't usually afford to grow indoors due to the high cost of electricity.

Commissioners agreed that it would be a good idea to find more about what the City of Arcata is doing in regard to taxing high usage electric customers and those growers on the PG&E CARE Program.

Motion was made by Johnson/Angeloff to adopt *Resolution No. PC 059-2012 Recommending that the City Council Approve and Adopt Medical Marijuana Regulations, Section 17.30.155 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC)* with no exception provisions, and the use of detached accessory buildings or greenhouses. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Community Development Director Caldwell reported on the next agenda will be the selection of Planning Commission Chair, Vice-Chair, the Annual Planning & Building Activity Report and possibly the Draft Circulation Element.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m. to the January 23, 2013 regular meeting.

Attest:

Gary Chapman, Vice Chair

Karen Dunham, City Clerk

For Meeting of: January 23, 2013

To: Planning Commission

From: Kevin Caldwell, Community Development Director 

Through: Jim Stretch, City Manager 

Date: January 14, 2013

Subject: 2012 Permit Activity Annual Report

Recommendation:

That the Planning Commission:

1. Receive staff's report regarding the 2012 Permit Activity.

Summary

Attachment 1 identifies the Planning projects that were processed during 2012. Not including the Albin General Plan Amendment and Zone Reclassification, staff processed three General Plan Amendments. Those amendments included the Broussard, Eel River Industrial Park and Town Center/Edwards General Plan Amendments. In addition, staff processed nine text amendments. The Teasley subdivision, Smither lot line adjustment, Close lot line adjustment and Keller variance were also processed and approved.

The City issued 89 Building Permits in 2012, including permits for five new housing units. Attachment 2 identifies the Building Permits that were issued in 2012.

Attachments:

1. 2012 Planning Activity Report.
2. 2012 Building Permit Activity Report.

General Plan Amendments & Zone Reclassifications	
Ordinance 280-2012 Adopted: January 17, 2012	Subject: Home Occupation Permits.
<u>Project Description:</u> Amended the City's Urban Residential and Suburban Residential zones to eliminate the requirement of a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Home Occupations. The Home Occupation provisions, Section 17.25.080 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC), clearly allowed Home Occupations as an accessory use in all residential zones, provided the Home Occupation meets the development or performance standards contained therein.	
Ordinance 281-2012 Adopted: January 17, 2012	Subject: Second Dwelling Units.
<u>Project Description:</u> A number of the City's provisions were either not consistent with State law and/or were poorly written. The City's previous regulations: (1) contained discretionary language when in fact approval of second units that meet the development standards is ministerial; (2) required that one of the dwelling units be owner-occupied; (3) precluded second units on lots less than 6,000 square feet, except in Town Center second units are allowed on lots of 5,000 square feet or more; (4) precluded manufactured or mobilehome as second units; and (5) inferred that detached second units are allowed in the rear yard setback.	
Ordinance 282-2012 Adopted: February 7, 2012	Subject: Broussard Plan Amendment, Zone Reclassification and Lot Line Adjustment.
<u>Project Description:</u> A General Plan Amendment and Zone Reclassification that redesignated approximately 5,050 square feet from Town Center (TC) to Urban Residential (UR). The amendments were required as part of an approved lot line adjustment.	
Ordinance 283-2012 Adopted: February 7, 2012	Subject: Lot Size Modification Provisions.
<u>Project Description:</u> A text amendment that established Lot Size Modification provisions, Section 17.30.130 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC).	
Ordinance 284-2012 Adopted: February 7, 2012	Subject: Yard Regulations, Setback Averaging and Corner Setbacks.
<u>Project Description:</u> A text amendment that amended the City's Yard Regulations, Section 17.30.280 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC) to allow setback averaging in Residential zones and to establish setback requirements for corner lots.	

General Plan Amendments & Zone Reclassifications	
Resolution 1150-2012 Adopted: April 3, 2012	Subject: Fence Regulations.
<u>Project Description:</u> Adoption of Resolution No. 1150-2012 recognizing and reaffirming the existing Fence Regulations, Ordinance No. 167.	
Ordinance 289-2012 Adopted: April 17, 2012	Subject: Election Sign Regulations.
<u>Project Description:</u> Amended Section 17.30.260 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC) by establishing Election/Political sign regulations.	
Ordinance 290-2012 Adopted: _____	Subject: Albin General Plan Amendment and Zone Reclassification.
<u>Project Description:</u> A General Plan Amendment and Zone Reclassification amending approximately 3 acres from Community Commercial (CC) to Urban Residential (UR). The Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the City Council deny the application. At the request of the applicant, the project has been pulled from consideration at this time. However, it's anticipated the applicant will request the Council consider the application sometime this spring.	
Ordinance 291-2012 Adopted: July 17, 2012	Subject: Design Review Regulations.
<u>Project Description:</u> A text amendment to establish Design Review Regulations, Section 17.25.050 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC). The purpose of the Design Review process is to promote orderly and harmonious growth within the City. The intent of the design review process is to establish discretionary review of development projects that require additional site and design considerations beyond conformance with minimum standards of the Zoning Code.	
Ordinance 292-2012 Adopted: July 3, 2012	Subject: Eel River Industrial Park.
<u>Project Description:</u> A General Plan Amendment and Zone Reclassification amending approximately 18 acres from Public Facility to Industrial Commercial and about 7 acres from Public Facility to Natural Resources.	

General Plan Amendments & Zone Reclassifications	
Ordinance 295-2012 Adopted: November 8, 2012	Subject: Parking Regulations Amendment.
<u>Project Description:</u> A text amendment repealing the existing Parking Regulations and establishing new Parking Regulations, Section 17.30.180 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC).	
Ordinance 297-2012 Adopted: November 8, 2012	Subject: Town Center and Edwards Acquisition Amendments.
<u>Project Description:</u> A General Plan and Zone Reclassification amending the Town Center/Urban Residential zoning designations, the allowed uses and development standards of the Town Center zone, the Edwards Suburban Low/Public Facility map designations and General Plan Land Use Policies LU-5 and LU-19 and Tables 1-1 and 1-2 of the General Plan.	
Subdivisions	
Resolution PC 052-2012 Adopted: July 25, 2012	Subject: Teasley Minor Subdivision
<u>Project Description:</u> A minor subdivision of a 24,750 square foot parcel into two parcels of about 12,040 and 12,710 square feet respectively. Both proposed parcels were developed with single family homes and residential accessory structures.	
Lot Line Adjustments	
Resolution PC 054-2012 Adopted: July 25, 2012	Subject: Close Lot Line Adjustment
<u>Project Description:</u> A lot line adjustment between two parcels of approximately 3,580 (APN 052-102-02) square feet and 35,340 (APN 052-102-06) square feet on property known as 1328 Eeloa Avenue. The purpose of the lot line adjustment was to site the existing commercial building (CC Market) on its own parcel. Once completed the lot line adjustment will result in two parcels of about 12,730 (APN 052-102-02) and 26,190 (APN 052-102-06) square feet respectively.	
Resolution PC 055-2012 Adopted: July 25, 2012	Subject: Smither Lot Line Adjustment
<u>Project Description:</u> A lot line adjustment between two parcels on property known as 541 Wildwood Avenue. The purpose of the lot line adjustment was to site the existing commercial building on its own parcel. The two existing parcels are 5,000 (50' x 100') square feet each. The proposed lot line adjustment will result in two parcels of 6,860 and 3,140 square feet respectively.	

Variances	
Resolution PC 058-2012 Adopted: September 26, 2012	Subject: Keller Variance
<u>Project Description:</u> A variance to the required 5 foot side-yard setback to allow the reconstruction/replacement of an existing garage in the same location. This existing garage, which was likely built decades ago, is/was 1 ½ feet from the property line	

[illegible]

19

BUILDING PERMIT LOG						
DATE	PERMIT NO.	APPLICANT/OWNER	CONTRACTOR	APN/ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	VALUATION
1/12/2012	11204	DEAN SMITHER	SMITHER CONSTRUCTION	750 IRELAND AVE,	GRADING PERMIT	
1/13/2012	11205	DARIO PRIMOFIORE	N/A	590 VIEW AVE.	ELECTRICAL UPGRADE	
1/17/2012	11206	MERILYN ROSS	N/A	390 WILDWOOD AVE.	STORAGE BIN	
1/17/2012	11207	AM NORTHWESTERN	AF BUILDERS	918 HILDA ct.	SPRINKLER SYSTEM	
1/20/2012	11208	DALE WILSON	DAVE WILSON CONST.	385 ORCHARD ST.	ELECTRICAL UPGRADE	
1/30/2012	11209	SYLVIA TEAGUE	LEGACY ELECTRIC	190 CEDAR ST.	100 AMP ELECTRICAL	
2/2/2012	21201	WES NALLY	EVANS MECHANICAL	141 N. PACIFIC AVE.	FURNACE, WATER HEATER	
2/7/2012	21202	MERILYN ROSS	N/A	390 WILDWOOD AVE.	NEW DOOR	
2/9/2012	21203	FRED GRUNDMAN	BARSANTI CONSTRUCTION	1285 EELOA AVE.	CARPORT	17,850
2/14/2012	21204	ANDREW GONZALES	N/A	153 ELKO ST.	STORAGE SHED	
2/14/2012	21205	MIGUEL MAGDELENO	N/A	118 FIRST AVE.	RE-ROOF	
2/14/2012	21206	RIO DELL TERRACE	EVANS MECHANICAL	325 CENTER APT. #4	WALL HEATER	
2/14/2012	21207	RIO DELL TERRACE	EVANS MECHANICAL	325 CENTER APT. #7	WALL HEATER	
2/16/2012	21208	BARBARA PEAVY	WYCKOFF'S	441 DIXIE ST.	GAS LINE	
3/2/2012	31201	JOE ENES	N/A	572 THIRD AVE.	100 AMP ELECTRICAL	
3/2/2012	31202	TIM MARKS	N/A	109 FIRST AVE.	GAS FURNACE	
3/5/2012	31203	WARREN JACKSON	N/A	130 WILDWOOD AVE.	REPAIR	
3/7/2012	31204	FLORENCE MOORE	N/A	420 THIRD AVE.	RE-ROOF	
3/8/2012	31205	ROBERT BOLEN	EVANS MECHANICAL	1080 MAY AVE.	WALL HEATER	

BUILDING PERMIT LOG						
DATE	PERMIT NO.	APPLICANT/OWNER	CONTRACTOR	APN/ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	VALUATION
3/9/2012	31206	WARREN JACKSON	N/A	130 WILDWOOD AVE.	SUPPLEMENTAL PERMIT	
3/29/2012	31207	CALVIN FISHER	N/A	210 BELLEVIEW AVE.	ADDITION	29,347
4/3/2012	41201	KAREN DUNHAM	JULIEN CONSTRUCTION	108 OGLE AVE.	GAS FURNACE	
4/5/2012	41202	RIO DELL TERRACE	EVANS MECHANICAL	325 CENTER APR. #21	GAS FURNACE	
PENDING	41203	DENNIS WENDT	WENDT CONSTRUCTION	1053 NORTHWESTERN	GRADING	
4/16/2012	41204	JACK ABOUSOUD	E & J LIQUORS	127 WILDWOOD AVE.	SUBWAY REMODEL	46,500
PENDING	41205	RAD KELLAR	N/A	202 COLUMBUS ST.	12 x 24 STORAGE SHED	
4/16/2012	41206	HUMBOLDT GABLES	N/A	40 W. DAVIS ST.	BATHROOM REMODEL	
4/17/2012	41207	WALLY CLOSE	WYCKOFF'S	1340 EELOA AVE.	WATER HEATER/GAS LINE	
4/18/2012	41208	WALLY CLOSE	TOWN & COUNTRY	1340 EELOA AVE.	GAS FURNACE	
PENDING	51201	JAMES CORTAZAR	N/A	720 DINSMORE RANCH	GARAGE CONVERSION	30,000
5/8/2012	51202	DONNA WHEELER	SANDERS ROOFING	1241 EELOA AVE.	RE-ROOF	
5/11/2012	51203	MICHELE FARLEY	RCM ELECTRIC	22 ALPINE	100 AMP ELECTRICAL	
5/16/2012	51204	FRED GRUNDMAN	BARSANTI CONSTRUCTION	1285 EELOA AVE.	SUPPLEMENTAL PERMIT	3,500
5/8/2012	51205	CAROLYN MCCANN	N/A	551 PACIFIC AVE.	INSTALL WOOD STOVE	
5/16/2012	51206	CAROLYN MCCANN	N/A	551 PACIFIC AVE.	ELEC/SUB PANEL/WINDOW	
6/1/2012	61201	TIM MARKS	N/A	355 PAINTER ST.	FURNACE	
6/5/2012	61202	GLENN LIPSCOMB	LIPSCOMB CONST.	150 GRAYLAND HGTS.	NEW S.F.R.	159,439
6/7/2012	61203	CORY LEACH	CORY LEACH CONST.	350-358 WILDWOOD	3 APARTMENT UNITS	326,795

BUILDING PERMIT LOG						
DATE	PERMIT NO.	APPLICANT/OWNER	CONTRACTOR	APN/ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	VALUATION
6/12/2012	61204	SHIRLEY DOWD	ZION CARLSON	895 RIVERSIDE DR.	RE-ROOF	
6/13/2012	61205	FRANCES COOK	EVANS MECHANICAL	174 BELLEVIEW AVE.	GAS FURNACE	
6/13/2012	61206	TIM BETHURUM	EVANS MECHANICAL	228 SEQUOIA AVE.	WATER HEATER	
6/18/2012	61207	THERESA BRUCE	EVANS MECHANICAL	230 CHERRY LANE	GAS FURNACE	
7/3/2012	71201	TRAVIS ARNETT	N/A	671 SIDE ST.	REPAIR	
PENDING	71202	ANTHONY PONNAY	N/A	351 FIRST AVE.	STORAGE SHED	
7/11/2012	71203	RICK PARSELLS	N/A	278 BELLEVIEW AVE.	ELECTRICAL UPGRADE	
7/12/2012	71204	JEFF THROGMORTON	N/A	1525 RIO VISTA DR.	ELECTRICAL SERVICE	
7/24/2012	71205	LARRY MADDEN	N/A	365 SECOND AVE.	RE-ROOF	
7/30/2012	71206	MIKE PORTER	N/A	885 RIVERSIDE DR.	REPAIRS	15,000
7/31/2012	71207	RAY ELLIOTT	McMURRAY & SONS	1010 MAY AVE.	RE-ROOF	
7/31/2012	71208	SHAWN STRINGER	REDWOOD EMPIRE	575 VIEW AVE.	RE-ROOF	
8/6/2012	81201	FRED DIPUCCI	N/A	198 N. FERN ST.	WOOD STOVE	
8/3/2012	81202	VINCE CAMPBELL	WYCKOFF'S	1070 RIO DELL AVE.	WATER HEATER	
8/10/2012	81203	FRED GRUNDMAN	BARSANTI CONSTRUCTION	1185 EELOA AVE.	COVER DECK	
PENDING	81204	TRAVIS ARNETT	N/A	671 SIDE ST.	REMODEL MOBILE HOME	10,450
8/16/2012	81205	JOSHUA WIENER	TRINIDAD ELECTRIC	1121 MILLER CT.	ELEC. FOR HOT TUB	
8/17/2012	81206	DON WATSON	McMURRAY & SONS	168 S. SEQUOIA AVE.	RE-ROOF	
8/20/2012	81207	DEAN SMITHER	SMITHER CONSTRUCTION	541 WILDWOOD AVE.	FIRE WALL	

BUILDING PERMIT LOG						
DATE	PERMIT NO.	APPLICANT/OWNER	CONTRACTOR	APN/ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	VALUATION
8/27/2012	81208	IDELYNE SIIPOLA	DAVE WILSON CONST.	494 DAVIS ST.	ELECTRICAL UPGRADE	
8/31/2012	81209	MORGAN DRAKE	N/A	210 WILLOW LANE	SECOND DWELLING UNIT	61,940
8/14/2012	81210	JESSE BIGGER	N/A	302 WOODLAND DR.	RESIDENTIAL ADDITION	123,740
9/6/2012	91201	LISA DISMORE	REDWOOD EMPIRE ROOF	519 RIGBY AVE.	RE-ROOF	
9/26/2012	91202	TIM & MELISSA MARKS	N/A	355 PAINTER ST.	PROCH HANDRAIL	
10/2/2012	101201	MARILYN MARTINO	N/A	1267 EELOA AVE.	RE-ROOF	
10/4/2012	101202	PHIL AYCOCK	N/A	140 WEBSTER ST.	GREENHOUSE	18,720
10/5/2012	101203	DIANE ROSTOW	N/A	305 COLUMBUS ST.	GAS FURNACE/FIRE DAMAGE	
10/8/2012	101204	STEVE SAUNDERS	HILLTOP BUILDERS	762 RIGBY AVE.	RE-ROOF	
10/18/2012	101205	RIO DELL TERRACE	EVANS MECHANICAL	325 CENTER APT. 19	WATER HEATER	
10/23/2012	101206	FRANCES POND	DAVE WILSON CONST.	1165 RIVERSIDE DR.	RESIDENTIAL REMODEL	20,000
10/24/2012	101207	MICHAEL CROSBIE	BRYAN RICHTER CONST.	101 PAINTER ST.	ELECTRICAL UPGRADE	
10/24/2012	101208	GEORGE WHITCHURCH	EVANS MECHANICAL	84 EDWARDS DR.	GAS FURNACE	
10/30/2012	101209	GLENN BESHEARS	N/A	203 OGLE AVE.	METAL GARAGE	
10/31/2012	101210	JOHN & DAVINA GRAY	N/A	169 BELLVIEW AVE.	GAS FURNACE/GAS LINE	
11/2/2012	111201	JUAN GARCIA	N/A	1001 RIVERSIDE DR.	WOOD STORAGE COVER	
11/2/2012	111202	ELIZABETH VARELAS	ELENA CONSTRUCTION	318 FIRST AVE.	RESIDENTIAL ADDITION	33,060
11/2/2012	111203	NICK ANGELOFF	N/A	156 GRAYLAND HEIGHTS	RE-ROOF	
11/7/2012	111204	STEPHANIE SANCHEZ	EVANS MECHANICAL	251 MONUMENT ROAD	GAS FURNACE	

For Meeting of: January 23, 2013

To: Planning Commission

From: Kevin Caldwell, Community Development Director 

Through: Jim Stretch, City Manager 

Date: January 15, 2013

Subject: Sign Regulations

Recommendation:

That the Planning Commission:

1. Receive staff's report regarding amending Section 17.30.260 of Rio Dell Municipal Code, the City's existing sign regulations to correct an error; and
2. Open the public hearing, receive public input and deliberate; and
3. Adopt Resolution No. PC 060-2013 recommending that the City Council amend Section 17.30.260 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code to correct an error and allow illuminated appurtenant signs in all commercial zones, including the Town Center and Industrial Commercial zones.

Background and Discussion

Staff recently discovered an error in the existing sign regulations, Section 17.30.260 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC). The City adopted the current zoning regulations in 2004. The vast majority, including the sign regulations, of the adopted regulations were carried over from the original zoning regulations, Ordinance 59.

A property owner recently contacted the City regarding placing a sign in the Town Center zone. Upon a review of the sign regulations, staff discovered that appurtenant signs are restricted to the Community Commercial (CC) zone. The current sign regulations are included as Attachment 1. The applicable provision is identified below:

17.30.260 Signs and nameplates.

*(e) Signs, appurtenant to any permitted use and not to exceed three square feet per front foot of the site on which it is displayed; provided, that any site shall be permitted at least 50 square feet, but in no case more than 300 square feet, and divided into not more than six single- or double-faced signs, shall be permitted in any **CC zone (emphasis added)**.*

Staff reviewed the original sign regulations, Section 6.18, Ordinance 59 included as Attachment 2, and determined that there was an error in carrying over the previous regulations into the current regulations. Section 6.18(e) of the original sign regulations are provided below:

6.18 Signs and nameplates.

*(e) Signs, appurtenant to any permitted use and not to exceed three square feet per front foot of the site on which it is displayed; provided, that any site shall be permitted at least 50 square feet, but in no case more than 300 square feet, and divided into not more than six single- or double-faced signs, shall be permitted in any **C or M-L zone (emphasis added)**.*

It is clear that the original sign provisions applied to all commercial zones and the Limited Industrial (M-L) zone. The 2004 amendments established the Town Center (TC) designation and replaced the Limited Industrial (M-L) zone with the Industrial Commercial (IC) zone. Accordingly, staff is recommending that Section 17.30.260(1)(e) be amended to include all commercial zones, including the Town Center and Industrial Commercial zones.

Another issue that requires an amendment is the fact that the regulations do not reference whether or not illuminated signs are allowed. However, as one can see in Attachment 2, there is a hand-written note indicating that illuminated signs are allowed. Staff believes this was the intent and that the historical application of the provision is consistent with ability to install illuminated signs. As such, staff is recommending that the regulations include a provision that appurtenant illuminated signs are allowed in commercial zones, including the Town Center zone and the Industrial Commercial zone.

Procedures for Zoning Ordinance Amendments

Pursuant to Section 17.30.010 of the City of Rio Dell Municipal Code, the following City procedures are required to amend the Ordinance:

- An amendment may be initiated by one or more owners of property affected by the proposed amendment, as set out in Section 17.30.010(3), or by action of the Planning Commission, or the City Council.
- The application of one or more property owners for the initiation of an amendment shall be filed in the office of the City Clerk on a form provided, accompanied by a filing fee.
- Subject only to the rules regarding the placing of matters on the Planning Commission agenda, the matter shall be set for a public hearing.

- Notice of hearing time and place shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation at least ten calendar days before the hearing or by posting in at least three public places.
- At the public hearing, the Planning Commission shall hear any person affected by the proposed amendment. The hearing may be continued from time to time.
- Within 40 days of the conclusion of the hearing, the Planning Commission shall submit to the City Council a written report of recommendations and reasons therefore.
- Subject only to the rules regarding the placing of matters on its agenda, the City Council, at its next regular meeting following the receipt of such report, shall cause the matter to be set for a public hearing. Notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given as provided in Section 17.30.010(5), hereof.
- At the public hearing, the City Council shall hear any person affected by the proposed amendment. The hearing may be continued to a specified future date, but shall be concluded within 60 days of the commencement thereof.
- The City Council shall not make any change in the proposed amendment until the proposed change has been referred to the Planning Commission for a report, and the Planning Commission report has been filed with the City Council.

Zone Amendment Required Findings:

1. The proposed amendment is in the public interest.

The amendment of the sign regulations is in the public interest in that it would correct what staff believes was an error or oversight when the current regulations were adopted in 2004. In addition, the success of a business depends in part on the location and visibility, including signage. A vibrant commercial district is in the public's interest.

2. The proposed amendment is consistent and compatible with the General Plan and any implementation programs that may be affected.

One of the primary purposes of the General Plan is to facilitate planned, orderly development and to promote economic development, the public health, safety and welfare of the community. There are a number of policies which encourage a vibrant commercial community. Appropriate and visible signage is an important factor in the success of any business. There are no specific General Plan goals, policies or discussions that are contrary to the recommended amendments. Therefore, staff believes the proposed minor amendments are consistent with the General Plan.

3. The proposed amendments have been processed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The primary purpose of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is to inform the decision makers and the public of potential environmental effects of a proposed project.

Based on the nature of the project, staff has determined that the project is Statutorily Exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California

Code of Regulations. Pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines this exemption is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a **significant** effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the project is not subject to CEQA. Based on the nature of the proposed amendments, staff believes there is no evidence to suggest that the minor amendments to the sign regulations will have a significant effect on the environment.

Financial Impact

The City is responsible for the costs associated with the proposed amendment. The cost is insignificant and will not result in additional budget expenditures or revisions.

Alternatives

The Planning Commission may choose not to recommend approval of the proposed amendments. Staff does not recommend this alternative.

Attachments:

1. Existing Sign Regulations, Section 17.30.260 Rio Dell Municipal Code.
2. Previous Sign Regulations, Section 6.18 Rio Dell Municipal Code.
3. Resolution No. PC 060-2013 recommending that the City Council amend Section 17.30.260(1)(e) of the Rio Dell Municipal Code to correct an error and allow illuminated appurtenant signs in all commercial zones, including the Town Center and Industrial Commercial zones.
4. Draft Ordinance No. 300-2013 amending the sign regulations, Section 17.30.260 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code, to allow illuminated appurtenant signs in all commercial zones, including the Town Center and Industrial Commercial zones.

17.30.260 Signs and nameplates.

(1) On-Site Signs. Nameplates (which shall be limited to a statement of the name, address and occupational designation of the occupant) and signs shall be permitted in conformity with the following regulations:

(a) One nameplate, not illuminated, appurtenant to any permitted use, not exceeding two square feet shall be permitted in urban residential, suburban residential, or suburban zones, and not exceeding four square feet shall be permitted in all other zones.

(b) One sign, not illuminated, to advertise the sale of property on which it is displayed and not exceeding six square feet shall be permitted in any zone; not exceeding 15 square feet shall be permitted in any CC, NC, or TC zone.

(c) Signs, not illuminated and not exceeding 100 square feet in aggregate, to advertise the sale of lots in the subdivision in which they are displayed shall be permitted with a use permit in any zone.

(d) Signs, not illuminated, appurtenant to any permitted use, not over 75 square feet in the aggregate and divided into not more than three single or double signs shall be permitted with a use permit in any zone except urban residential, suburban residential, or suburban zones.

(e) Signs, appurtenant to any permitted use and not to exceed three square feet per front foot of the site on which it is displayed; provided, that any site shall be permitted at least 50 square feet, but in no case more than 300 square feet, and divided into not more than six single- or double-faced signs, shall be permitted in any CC zone.

(f) Traffic or other municipal signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, public telephone signs, signs placed by a public utility showing the location of underground facilities, danger and such temporary, emergency or non-advertising signs as may be approved by the City Council shall be permitted in all districts without the necessity of obtaining a use permit.

(g) No permit for any sign shall be issued and no sign shall be constructed or maintained which does not comply with all provisions of this title or which has less horizontal or vertical clearance from communications lines and energized electrical power lines than that prescribed by the laws of the State of California or rules and regulations duly promulgated by agencies thereof.

(2) Off-Site Signs. No sign advertising a commercial good, product or service which is located on a different lot or parcel of land from which the commercial advertiser's place of business is located shall be permitted, except with a use permit. Limited temporary off-site signs providing location and other information relating to local events and activities shall be permitted if installed with the permission of the property owner. [Ord. 252 § 6.18, 2004.]

(3) Election Campaign Signs. Temporary campaign signs relating to federal, state, county, city, school district, special district, or other governmental agency elections are permitted in all zones subject to the following regulations:

(a) Signs may be displayed up to 60 days before a scheduled election and must be removed within 10 days after the election;

- (b) Signs shall be limited to 4 square feet and 48 inches in height. No more than 4 signs shall be allowed on any one parcel;
- (c) No sign may be placed on private property without the consent of the property owner.
- (d) Signs may be freestanding or attached to existing buildings or fences. However they are not permitted on street signs, trees, shrubs, bus stops, power poles, utility cabinets or other public appurtenances;
- (e) Signs may not be placed within 15 feet of any fire hydrant, street sign or traffic signal, or interfere with, confuse, obstruct or mislead traffic;
- (f) Signs may not be placed within a public right of way, nor within 30 feet of an intersection and no closer than 3 feet from the curb. Where no curb exists, signs shall be at least 5 feet from the edge of the pavement;
- (g) Homeowners are allowed to place political signs in the windows of their property;
- (h) Signs may not be illuminated, including motion and/or flashing lights, but may be placed where existing lighting may permit them to be seen at night. [Ord. 289 17.30.260, 2012.]

Sec. 6.17 REMOVAL OF NATURAL MATERIALS.

Surface removal of minerals and natural materials, including building and construction materials to be used for commercial purposes, shall be allowed in any zone with a use permit. A use permit shall not be required for on-site excavation and removal of materials for normal construction of buildings, structures or underground facilities or where such removal is primarily for building site grading and land leveling.

Sec. 6.18 SIGNS AND NAMEPLATES.

Nameplates (which shall be limited to a statement of the name, address and occupational designation of the occupant) and signs shall be permitted in conformity with the following regulations:

A. One nameplate, not illuminated, appurtenant to any permitted use, not exceeding 2 square feet shall be permitted in R-S, R-1 and R-2 zones, and not exceeding 4 square feet shall be permitted in all other zones.

B. One sign, not illuminated, to advertise the sale of property on which it is displayed and not exceeding 6 square feet shall be permitted in any zone; not exceeding 15 sq. feet shall be permitted in any C Zone; not exceeding 20 sq. feet shall be permitted in any F Zone.

C. Signs, not illuminated and not exceeding 100 square feet in aggregate, to advertise the sale of lots in the subdivision in which it is displayed shall be permitted with a use permit in any zone.

D. Signs, not illuminated, appurtenant to any permitted use, not over 75 square feet in the aggregate and divided into not more than 3 single or double-faced signs shall be permitted with a use permit in any zone except R-S, R-1 and R-2 Zones.

Can be
Illuminated

E. Signs, appurtenant to any permitted use and not to exceed 3 square feet per front foot of the site on which it is displayed, provided that any site shall be permitted at least 50 square feet, but in no case more than 300 square feet, and divided into not more than 6 single or double-faced signs, shall be permitted in any C or M-L Zone.

F. Signs, whether appurtenant to permitted use or not, and not limited as to size or number, shall be permitted in M-H Zones, and with a use permit in C-2 Zones.

G. Traffic or other municipal signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, public telephone signs, signs placed by a public utility showing the location of underground facilities, danger and such temporary, emergency or non-advertising signs as may be approved by the City Council shall be permitted in all districts without the necessity of obtaining a use permit.

H. No permit for any sign shall be issued and no sign shall be constructed or maintained which does not comply with all provisions of this ordinance or which has less horizontal or vertical clearance from communications lines and energized electrical power lines than that prescribed by the laws of the State of California or rules and regulations duly promulgated by agencies thereof.

Sec. 6.19 SWIMMING POOLS.

Any pool, pond, lake or open tank, not completely enclosed within a building, which is normally capable of containing water to a depth greater than 18 inches at any point and in which swimming or bathing is permitted to the occupants of the premises on which it is located, or their guests, and which shall not be used for commercial purposes, shall be permitted, with a use permit in any zone and shall be subject to the following regulations:

A. Such pool shall be located on the rear one-half of the lot and in any case not less than 50 feet from the front lot line. Side and rear yards shall be as required for accessory buildings, but in no case within 5 feet of any lot line. Filter and heating systems shall not be located within 10 feet of any lot line.

B. Ground coverage by a swimming pool shall not exceed 40% of the rear yard required of the lot on which it stands. Ground coverage by a swimming pool shall not be included in computing maximum ground coverage allotted to buildings on the lot.

C. Such pool or the property on which it is located shall be completely enclosed by a wall or fence not less than 4½ feet in height, containing no openings greater than 4 inches except for self-closing and self-latching gates on which the latch is at least 4 feet above ground level, in order that full control of access by children may be maintained.

Sec. 6.20 TRACT OFFICES.

Temporary tract offices located on the premises of the subdivision shall be allowed, with a use permit, in conjunction with the sale of lots in a subdivision.

Sec. 6.21 YARDS.

The minimum yard requirements set out in Articles 4 and 5 shall be subject to the regulations of this Section.

A. Cornices, eaves, canopies, bay windows, chimneys and similar architectural features may extend a maximum of 2½ feet into such yards. Uncovered porches or stairways, fire escapes or landings may extend a maximum of 6 feet into front yards and 3 feet into side yards.

RESOLUTION NO. PC 060 - 2013

**RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF RIO DELL
RECOMMENDING AMENDING THE SIGN REGULATIONS,
SECTION 17.30.260 OF THE RIO DELL MUNICIPAL CODE:**

WHEREAS staff recently discovered an error in the existing sign regulations, Section 17.30.260 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC); and

WHEREAS the City adopted the current zoning regulations in 2004 and the vast majority, including the sign regulations, of the adopted regulations were carried over from the original zoning regulations, Ordinance 59; and

WHEREAS staff discovered that appurtenant signs are restricted to the Community Commercial (CC) zone; and

WHEREAS the original sign provisions, Section 6.18 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC) applied to all commercial zones and the Limited Industrial (M-L) zone; and

WHEREAS the 2004 amendments established the Town Center (TC) designation and replaced the Limited Industrial (M-L) zone with the Industrial Commercial (IC) zone; and

WHEREAS staff is recommending that Section 17.30.260(1)(e) be amended to include all commercial zones, including the Town Center and Industrial Commercial zones; and

WHEREAS the current regulations do not reference whether or not appurtenant illuminated signs are allowed; and

WHEREAS staff is recommending that the regulations include a provision that appurtenant illuminated signs are allowed in commercial zones, including the Town Center zone and the Industrial Commercial zone; and

WHEREAS the City has reviewed and processed the proposed amendment in conformance with Sections 65350 – 65362 of the California Government Code; and

WHEREAS the City has reviewed and processed the proposed amendment in conformance with Section 17.30.010 of the City of Rio Dell Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS the City finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the proposed amendment is deemed to be in the public interest; and

WHEREAS the City finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the proposed amendment is consistent and compatible with a comprehensive view of the General Plan and any implementation programs that may be affected; and

WHEREAS the City finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the potential impacts of the proposed amendment has been assessed and have been determined not to be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare; and

WHEREAS the proposed amendment has been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the California Government Code and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and

WHEREAS the City has determined that the establishment of sign regulation regarding the placement of political and election signs is Statutorily Exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Planning Commission of the City of Rio Dell recommends that the City Council:

1. Finds that the proposed amendments are in the public interest and consistent with an overall comprehensive view of the General Plan; and
2. Finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the potential impacts of the proposed amendments have been assessed and have been determined not to be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare; and
3. Finds that based on the nature of the project, the project is Statutorily Exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations. Pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines this exemption is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a *significant* effect on the environment.
4. Adopt Ordinance No. 300-2013 amending Section 17.30.260(1)(e) of the Rio Dell Municipal Code to allow appurtenant illuminated signs in commercial zones, including the Town Center zone and the Industrial Commercial zone.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Planning Commission of the City of Rio Dell at their meeting of January 23, 2013 by the following vote:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the forgoing Resolution was duly noticed, introduced and approved at a regular meeting of the Planning Commission of the City of Rio Dell on January 23, 2013 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Chair

ATTEST:

Karen Dunham, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 300-2013

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIO DELL
AMENDING SIGN REGULATIONS,
SECTION 17.30.260 OF THE RIO DELL MUNICIPAL CODE:**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIO DELL DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS staff recently discovered an error in the existing sign regulations, Section 17.30.260 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC); and

WHEREAS the City adopted the current zoning regulations in 2004 and the vast majority, including the sign regulations, of the adopted regulations were carried over from the original zoning regulations, Ordinance 59; and

WHEREAS staff discovered that appurtenant signs are restricted to the Community Commercial (CC) zone; and

WHEREAS the original sign provisions, Section 6.18 of the Rio Dell Municipal Code (RDMC) applied to all commercial zones and the Limited Industrial (M-L) zone; and

WHEREAS the 2004 amendments established the Town Center (TC) designation and replaced the Limited Industrial (M-L) zone with the Industrial Commercial (IC) zone; and

WHEREAS staff is recommending that Section 17.30.260(1)(e) be amended to include all commercial zones, including the Town Center and Industrial Commercial zones; and

WHEREAS the current regulations do not reference whether or not appurtenant illuminated signs are allowed; and

WHEREAS staff is recommending that the regulations include a provision that appurtenant illuminated signs are allowed in commercial zones, including the Town Center zone and the Industrial Commercial zone; and

WHEREAS the City has reviewed and processed the proposed amendment in conformance with Sections 65350 – 65362 of the California Government Code; and

WHEREAS the City has reviewed and processed the proposed amendment in conformance with Section 17.30.010 of the City of Rio Dell Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS the City finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the proposed amendment is deemed to be in the public interest; and

WHEREAS the City finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the proposed amendment is consistent and compatible with a comprehensive view of the General Plan and any implementation programs that may be affected; and

WHEREAS the City finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the potential impacts of the proposed amendment has been assessed and have been determined not to be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare; and

WHEREAS the proposed amendment has been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the California Government Code and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and

WHEREAS the City has determined that the establishment of sign regulation regarding the placement of political and election signs is Statutorily Exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Rio Dell:

1. Finds that the proposed amendments are in the public interest and consistent with an overall comprehensive view of the General Plan; and
2. Finds that based on evidence on file and presented in the staff report that the potential impacts of the proposed amendments have been assessed and have been determined not to be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare; and
3. Finds that based on the nature of the project, the project is Statutorily Exempt pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines, Title 14, Chapter 3 of the California Code of Regulations. Pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines this exemption is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a *significant* effect on the environment.
4. Adopt Ordinance No. 300-2013 amending Section 17.30.260(1)(e) of the Rio Dell Municipal Code to allow appurtenant illuminated signs in commercial zones, including the Town Center zone and the Industrial Commercial zone.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Rio Dell does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. Blue, underlined text is the new regulations.

17.30.260 Signs and nameplates.

(1) On-Site Signs. Nameplates (which shall be limited to a statement of the name, address and occupational designation of the occupant) and signs shall be permitted in conformity with the following regulations:

(a) One nameplate, not illuminated, appurtenant to any permitted use, not exceeding two square feet shall be permitted in urban residential, suburban residential, or suburban zones, and not exceeding four square feet shall be permitted in all other zones.

(b) One sign, not illuminated, to advertise the sale of property on which it is displayed and not exceeding six square feet shall be permitted in any zone; not exceeding 15 square feet shall be permitted in any CC, NC, or TC zone.

(c) Signs, not illuminated and not exceeding 100 square feet in aggregate, to advertise the sale of lots in the subdivision in which they are displayed shall be permitted with a use permit in any zone.

(d) Signs, not illuminated, appurtenant to any permitted use, not over 75 square feet in the aggregate and divided into not more than three single or double signs shall be permitted with a use permit in any zone except urban residential, suburban residential, or suburban zones.

(e) Signs, appurtenant to any permitted use and not to exceed three square feet per front foot of the site on which it is displayed; provided, that any site shall be permitted at least 50 square feet, but in no case more than 300 square feet, and divided into not more than six single- or double-faced signs, illuminated or not shall be permitted in any ~~CC zone~~ commercial zone, including the Town Center zone and the Industrial Commercial zone.

(f) Traffic or other municipal signs, legal notices, railroad crossing signs, public telephone signs, signs placed by a public utility showing the location of underground facilities, danger and such temporary, emergency or non-advertising signs as may be approved by the City Council shall be permitted in all districts without the necessity of obtaining a use permit.

(g) No permit for any sign shall be issued and no sign shall be constructed or maintained which does not comply with all provisions of this title or which has less horizontal or vertical clearance from communications lines and energized electrical power lines than that prescribed by the laws of the State of California or rules and regulations duly promulgated by agencies thereof.

(2) Off-Site Signs. No sign advertising a commercial good, product or service which is located on a different lot or parcel of land from which the commercial advertiser's place of business is located shall be permitted, except with a use permit. Limited temporary off-site signs providing location and other information relating to local events and activities shall be permitted if installed with the permission of the property owner. [Ord. 252 § 6.18, 2004.]

(3) Election Campaign Signs. Temporary campaign signs relating to federal, state, county, city, school district, special district, or other governmental agency elections are permitted in all zones subject to the following regulations:

(a) Signs may be displayed up to 60 days before a scheduled election and must be removed within 10 days after the election;

(b) Signs shall be limited to 4 square feet and 48 inches in height. No more than 4 signs shall be allowed on any one parcel;

(c) No sign may be placed on private property without the consent of the property owner.

(d) Signs may be freestanding or attached to existing buildings or fences. However they are not permitted on street signs, trees, shrubs, bus stops, power poles, utility cabinets or other public appurtenances;

(e) Signs may not be placed within 15 feet of any fire hydrant, street sign or traffic signal, or interfere with, confuse, obstruct or mislead traffic;

(f) Signs may not be placed within a public right of way, nor within 30 feet of an intersection and no closer than 3 feet from the curb. Where no curb exists, signs shall be at least 5 feet from the edge of the pavement;

(g) Homeowners are allowed to place political signs in the windows of their property;

(h) Signs may not be illuminated, including motion and/or flashing lights, but may be placed where existing lighting may permit them to be seen at night. [Ord. 289 17.30.260, 2012.]

Section 2. Severability

If any provision of the ordinance is invalidated by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 3. Limitation of Actions

Any action to challenge the validity or legality of any provision of this ordinance on any grounds shall be brought by court action commenced within ninety (90) days of the date of adoption of this ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date

This ordinance becomes effective thirty (30) days after the date of its approval and adoption.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the forgoing Ordinance was duly introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Rio Dell on February 5, 2013 and furthermore the forgoing Ordinance was passed, approved and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Rio Dell, held on the 19th day of February 2013 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Jack Thompson, Mayor

Karen Dunham, City Clerk

675 Wildwood Avenue
Rio Dell, CA 95562
(707) 764-3532



For Meeting of: January 23, 2013

To: Planning Commission

From: Kevin Caldwell, Community Development Director 

Through: Jim Stretch, City Manager

Date: January 18, 2013

Subject: Draft Circulation Element

Recommendation:

That the Planning Commission:

1. Receive staff's report regarding the Circulation Element; and
2. Open the public hearing, receive public input and deliberate; and
3. Continue the review of the Draft Circulation Element to the meeting of February 27, 2013.

Background and Discussion

Attachment 1 is the Draft Circulation Element for the City. The current Circulation Element (Attachment 2) was adopted in 1977, some 33 years ago. The Circulation Element is one of seven mandated elements of the General Plan. The other mandated elements include Land Use (2008), Housing (2010), Conservation (2001), Open Space (1972), Safety (1975) and Noise (2012).

In 2010 the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), published the *Update to the General Plan Guidelines: Complete Streets and the Circulation Element*. Assembly Bill 1358 (AB 1358, Chapter 657, Statutes of 2008), the California Complete Streets Act, required OPR to amend the 2003 *General Plan Guidelines* to provide guidance to local jurisdictions on how to plan for multimodal (automobile, public transit, bicycle and pedestrian) transportation

networks in general plan circulation elements. Staff considered and addressed the changes in preparing the Draft Circulation Element.

At this point, staff recommends that we introduce the Circulation Element, briefly review the document and continue the review to your February meeting.

Attachments:

1. Draft Circulation Element.
2. Existing 1977 Circulation Element.

Chapter 4 Circulation Element

4.1 INTRODUCTION



The Circulation Element identifies the guiding principles for moving people and goods within the City and identifies the infrastructure necessary to assure that the transportation network will serve the City at General Plan buildout.

A majority of trips are made by automobile. The Circulation Element identifies the roadway system necessary for automobile traffic by setting levels of service, hierarchy of roads, and areas where road improvements are necessary.

On September 30, 2008 Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Assembly Bill 1358, the California Complete Streets Act. The Act states: "In order to fulfill the commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, make the most efficient use of urban land and transportation infrastructure, and improve public health by encouraging physical activity, transportation planners must find innovative ways to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and to shift from short trips in the automobile to biking, walking and use of public transit.

The legislation impacts local general plans by adding the following language to Government Code Section 65302(b)(2)(A) and (B):

(A) Commencing January 1, 2011, upon any substantial revision of the circulation element, the legislative body shall modify the circulation element to plan for a balanced, multimodal transportation network that meets the needs of all users of the streets, roads, and highways for safe and convenient travel in a manner that is suitable to the rural, suburban, or urban context of the general plan.

(B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "users of streets, roads, and highways" means bicyclists, children, persons with disabilities, motorists, movers of commercial goods, pedestrians, users of public transportation, and seniors.

The Circulation Element also identifies alternative travel modes, such as walking, bicycles, bus transit, and rail transit. The alternative transportation is important to reduce pressure on roads, conserve energy, and improve the public health through exercise.

The road system provides many functions in addition to carrying vehicle traffic. It provides open space separating dwelling units and commercial uses. If properly landscaped, streetside landscaping provides location for trees to support the urban forest. If developed with safe pedestrian and bike ways, it serves as a non-motorized transportation corridor, a linear park, and an attractive network for healthy exercise. If properly designed, it provides the background for the community urban design and appearance. Finally, it provides the right of way for most of

the City's public utilities infrastructure.

4.2 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ELEMENTS

The goals and policies in this Element are directly correlated with that of the Land Use Element and Housing Element so that new and existing development will be adequately served by the transportation system, and will not interfere with existing or planned improvements.

**Mandatory
General Plan
Elements**

Coordinating land use and circulation decisions is necessary to achieve many of the goals of this Plan. For example, adequate roads and safe bicycle and pedestrian routes within the City are essential to accommodate growth. If circulation problems are fixed and improvements are made as development occurs, growth can be accommodated without creating traffic and traffic safety problems for existing residents. Land use planning must also complement transportation planning by locating uses in areas that can be cost effectively served and conditioning projects to mitigate impacts.

**Land Use
Circulation
Housing
Conservation
Open Space
Safety
Noise**

4.3 AGENCY COORDINATION

Coordinating the City's efforts with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the regional Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG) is a high priority of this Plan.



The Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCAOG) is a Joint Powers Agency comprised of the seven incorporated cities (Arcata, Blue Lake, Eureka, Ferndale, Fortuna, Rio Dell, Trinidad), and the County of Humboldt. It is the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA). HCAOG is largely responsible for programming State highway, local street and road improvements, public transportation resources, and the roadside call box program. HCAOG also bears responsibility for preparing and implementing the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Regional Trails Master Plan.

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is a long-range transportation planning document for Humboldt County. HCAOG prepares updates every five years, coordinating with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 1, local governments, local tribes, local transit authorities and transportation agencies, residents, and other stakeholders. HCAOG is currently in the process of updating the 2008 RTP, as well as the plan's Environmental Impact Report (required by the California Environmental Quality Act).

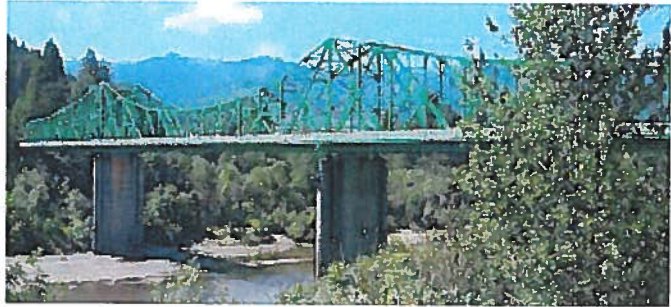
The main purpose of the County Regional Trails Master Plan is to promote the development of a regional active transportation system. The plan promotes active transportation connections *within* and *between* communities.

The Humboldt County Regional Trails Master Plan is a long-range coordinating and resource document that will help plan and implement a regional, active transportation system that ensures safe and equitable access for non-motorized users. The plan compiles information on

existing trails and active transportation planning in the region, focusing primarily on off-street trails.

4.4 ROADWAY INFRASTRUCTURE

Access to the City is primarily from US Highway 101. There are three access points into the City: (1) the Wildwood Avenue interchange on the north end of the City; (2) the Davis Street interchange; and (3) the Scotia – Rio Dell interchange to the south. The Scotia – Rio Dell bridge, also known as the Eagle Prairie Bridge (State Route 283), is the shortest state highway in the Country at .36 of a mile.



The City currently maintains approximately 14.2 miles of streets. The vast majority of streets are made up primarily of two-lane roads. There are a number of streets within the City that do not have curbs, gutters and sidewalks. The lack of curbs, gutters and sidewalks contributes to drainage problems in many of the City's neighborhoods.

A functional classification system provides for specialization in meeting the access and mobility requirements of the development permitted under the General Plan. Local streets emphasize property access; arterials emphasize high mobility for through traffic; and collectors seek a balance between the two functions.

Figure 4-1, the Circulation Diagram, presents the official functional classifications of existing and proposed streets, roadways, and highways in Rio Dell. The hierarchy of the functional classifications in the city consists of principal arterials, minor arterials, collectors, and local roads and streets as described below. The Circulation Diagram identifies the arterial and collector roadway system in Rio Dell. All roadways not identified on the Circulation Diagram are classified as local streets.

Freeways: Freeways route traffic through the community and are characterized by large traffic volumes and high speed travel.

Arterial Routes: Arterials link residential and commercial districts, and serve shorter through traffic needs.

Collector Roads: Collector streets link neighborhoods to arterials and are not intended for through traffic, but are nonetheless intended to move traffic in an efficient manner.

Local Streets: Local streets are designed to serve only adjacent land uses and are intended to protect residents from through traffic impacts.

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FIGURE 4-1
CIRCULATION DIAGRAM**

Roadway functional classifications and standards for Arterial Routes, Collector Roads and Local Streets are shown below in Table 4-1. The standards identify recommended right-of-way, sidewalk, planting strip, parking, bicycle and travel lane widths. These are only recommended widths. The primary objective of the recommended widths is to ensure the safe and efficient movement of motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians. If a development project does not incorporate the recommended widths, appropriate Caltrans or American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards shall be applied. Design features not addressed by Caltrans and AASHTO standards shall be designed consistent with standard engineering practices.

**Table 4-1
Recommended Right of Way/Street Widths**

Type	ROW	Sidewalk	Landscape Strip	Parking Lane	Bike Lane	Travel Lane	Median
Principal Arterial	96	6	10	0	5	12	15
Minor Arterial	82	6	10	8	5	12	0
Principal Collector	82	6	6	0	5	12	12
Minor Collector	74	6	6	8	5	12	0
Local up to 300 parcels	72	5	6	8	5	12	0
Local up to 75 parcels	56	5	3	8	5	10	0
Local up to 25 parcels	44	5	0	8	0	9	0
Local up to 6 parcels	40	5	0	7	0	8	0

4.5 ROADWAY CAPACITY

As the City's population grows, corresponding increases in vehicle volumes will have impacts on the safety and functionality of City roadways. Roadway capacity is generally assessed using a Level of Service (LOS) rating. The LOS rating is a qualitative measure describing operational conditions within a traffic stream and their perception by motorists. The quality of traffic operations is expressed in terms of LOS A (no congestion) through LOS F (extreme congestions). LOS definitions generally describe traffic conditions in terms of speed, travel time, freedom to maneuver, traffic interruption, comfort, and convenience. Typically, level of service D is used as the design standard in urban areas and level of service C is used as the design standard in rural areas. Table 4-2 identifies the descriptions of the various LOS levels.

**Table 4-2
Level of Service (LOS) Standards**

LOS	Description
A	Free-flowing conditions with no delay
B	Free-flowing conditions; however, speed and maneuverability are slightly restricted due to the presence of other vehicles
C	Stable traffic flow, with less freedom to select speed, change lanes, or pass. Some delay may be experienced
D	A traffic stream approaching unstable flow, with reduced speed and maneuverability.
E	Unstable traffic flow with rapidly fluctuating speeds and flow rates
F	Forced traffic flow, where speed and flow may drop to zero with high densities.

Overall roadway capacity and functionality in the City is currently operating at a LOS C or better level.

Due to their right-of-way widths and the amount of on-street parking on First and Second Avenues, the City Council has discussed the possibility of designating these streets as one-way streets. The purpose of designating the streets one-way is to improve traffic congestion and emergency access.

In order to minimize impacts to City streets due heavy commercial truck traffic associated with timber harvest and mining/quarry operations west of the City, the City has designated a truck route from Monument Road to Pacific Avenue to Davis Street.

Impacts of new development on the safety and capacity of the road network are currently assessed on a project-by-project basis. Developments are required to make on-site improvements to the road frontage and to provide safe access to the new development. The City has been unable to fund road construction to support new development and generally has not accepted privately constructed roads into its maintained road system. Instead, new roads constructed to City standards must be maintained by a Home Owner or Road Maintenance Association.

4.6 ROADWAY MAINTENANCE.

Roadway maintenance programs must be properly funded and managed to have a lasting beneficial effect on roadway condition and public safety. Maintenance benefits can only be achieved if substantial improvements are made to assure the long-term performance of the City's roadways. Perhaps the most significant factor is the availability and allocation of funds for roadway maintenance and construction. And the amount of funding needed is determined by roadway design, construction, maintenance and rehabilitation, which all affect the rate of roadway deterioration.



The State of California imposes excise taxes on various transportation fuels. California motor vehicle fuel taxes include the gasoline tax, diesel fuel tax, and the use fuel tax. Taxes on fuel used for other motor vehicles are transferred to the state Highway Users Tax Account. These include:

- The “gasoline tax” and “diesel fuel tax” imposed on the use of vehicle fuels at the rate of \$0.18 per gallon including the \$0.09 rate imposed by Proposition 111 (1994).
- The “use fuel tax” is imposed on vendors and users of motor vehicle fuels that are not taxed under either the gasoline or diesel fuel tax, such as liquefied petroleum gas, ethanol, methanol and natural gas (both liquid and gaseous) for use on state highways. Use Fuel Tax rates vary depending on the type of fuel.
- Beginning with the 2010-11 fiscal year, Section 2103 of the Streets and Highways Code was added to allocate funds from a new motor vehicle fuel excise tax that replace previous city and county allocations from the Proposition 42 sales tax on gasoline. This is the change known as the “fuel tax swap of 2010.” Section 2103 funds are allocated to cities on a per capita basis and to counties 75% based on the proportion of registered vehicles and 25% based on the proportion of maintained county road miles.

The allocation of highway user tax revenues is complex, with differing allocations of the \$0.09 Proposition 111 rate versus the \$0.09 original gasoline tax rate, as well as differences in the allocation of gasoline tax revenues from diesel and fuel use tax revenues.

Of the \$0.18 per gallon of user tax revenue, the City receives about \$0.03. In fiscal year 2011-2012 the City received \$102,470 in user tax revenue. The State has projected that the City will receive \$90,227 in user tax revenue in fiscal year 2012-2013.

In 2009 HCAOG retained the services of Nichols Consulting Engineers to prepare a regional Pavement Management Program (PMP). The intent was to identify and prioritize needed maintenance, rehabilitation and reconstruction of roads within the County and Cities. Roads were categorized based on a Pavement Condition Index (PCI). The PCI provides a numerical rating for the condition of road segments within the road network, where 0 is the worst possible condition and 100 is the best. The PCI is used to guide rehabilitation and maintenance decisions for the road network based on a decision matrix. See Table 4-3.

Table 4-3
Pavement Condition Index (PCI) Decision matrix

PCI Decision Matrix				
TIME OF IMPROVEMENT	FREEWAY	ARTERIAL	COLLECTOR	LOCAL
Adequate	>85	>85	>80	>80
6 to 10 years	76 to 85	76 to 85	71 to 80	66 to 80
1 to 5 years	66 to 75	56 to 75	51 to 70	46 to 65
NOW Rehabilitate	60 to 65	50 to 55	45 to 50	40 to 45
NOW Reconstruct	<60	<50	<45	<40

Based on the results of condition surveys conducted in the Fall of 2009, Nichols Consulting Engineers determined that the City's average PCI is 61. This is considered to be in the “FAIR” condition category. The City retained Nichols Consulting Engineers to follow-up on the 2009 Pavement Management Program to identify potential costs associated to the City's maintenance backlog. Based on Nichols survey and rating dated August 2011, there are approximately 30 streets or portions of streets with a PCI rating of 40 or less. Nichols determined that it would

cost the City approximately \$3.7 million (2011 dollars) to fix all the roads in a one year period. Table 4-3 summarizes the costs for the next 20 years. Basically, the City needs about \$5.3 million (in real 2011 dollars) over the next 20 years to improve and maintain the City's street network at a PCI rating in the high 70's to low 80's.

Table 4-4
Estimated Road Repair Costs

Year	Estimated Construction Costs (2011 \$)	Cumulative Construction Costs (2011 \$)		Year	Estimated Construction Costs (2011 \$)	Cumulative Construction Costs (2011 \$)
2012	\$ 2,571,500	\$ 2,571,500		2022	\$ 7,062	\$ 4,049,651
2013	\$ 295,403	\$ 2,866,903		2023	\$ 9,652	\$ 4,059,303
2014	\$ 151,990	\$ 3,018,893		2024	\$ 11,056	\$ 4,070,359
2015	\$ 202,767	\$ 3,221,660		2025	\$ 12,375	\$ 4,082,734
2016	\$ 172,414	\$ 3,394,074		2026	\$ 77,348	\$ 4,160,082
2017	\$ 210,519	\$ 3,604,593		2027	\$ 48,339	\$ 4,208,421
2018	\$ 81,071	\$ 3,685,664		2028	\$ 114,435	\$ 4,322,856
2019	\$ 22,733	\$ 3,708,397		2029	\$ 55,830	\$ 4,378,686
2020	\$ 317,667	\$ 4,026,064		2030	\$ 137,876	\$ 4,516,562
2021	\$ 16,525	\$ 4,042,589		2031	\$ 802,663	\$ 5,319,225

In an attempt to generate much needed funds for road repairs, the City placed Measure X on the June 2012 ballot. Measure X would allow the City to issue \$2 million dollars in general obligation funds, maturing 15 years from their issue date and bearing an interest rate not to exceed 4.25%. It was estimated that the annual parcel tax assessment would be about \$115.00 per \$100,000 of assessed value. In addition, the City was going to contribute an additional \$825,000. It was estimated that the \$2,825,000 would allow the City to repair about 11.5 miles or 90% of the City's roads.

Because Measure X was a tax, it required a supermajority 2/3 voter approval. Measure X received 62.59 percent of the votes. The measure needed 66.66 percent to pass. Because the vote was so close, the City decided to put the matter to the voters again. Measure J was placed on the November 2012 ballot. Measure J also failed to garner the required votes. Measure J received 55.61% of the vote.

2012 Election Results				
Measure	Yes	%	No	%
"X"	437	62.7%	260	37.3%
"J"	595	55.61%	475	44.39%

4.7 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



Providing adequate public transportation to serve the needs of Rio Dell residents who prefer or require public transportation for mobility is a priority of the Circulation Element. Increased use of public transportation will reduce air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, traffic congestion, parking demand, energy consumption and the cost of personal transportation.

The 2008 Regional Transportation Plan contains a comprehensive description of public transit services of fixed and flexible route providers. The following fixed-route systems serve the county's public transit needs: Redwood Transit System, Eureka Transit System, Southern Humboldt Rural Transit System, Arcata & Mad River Transit System, Klamath/Trinity Non Emergency Transportation (K/T Net), and Blue Lake Rancheria.

The Humboldt Transit Authority (HTA), established in 1975, provides transit services along the US 101 corridor in Humboldt County. A joint powers agreement was signed by Humboldt County and the cities of Arcata, Eureka, Fortuna, Rio Dell and Trinidad to finance, acquire, construct, manage, operate and maintain public transit systems and related property and facilities.



Funding for support of the operations and maintenance of HTA is obtained primarily through fares, and Transportation Development Act (TDA) funds that accrue to each entity of HTA. The proportion of TDA funds that are paid by the cities and the county for the support of HTA are based on the census population of each city, compared to the population of all the cities. Humboldt County provides 50 percent of the TDA funds, and the participating cities provide the other 50 percent (City of Eureka 25.6 percent, City of Arcata 13.1 percent, City of Fortuna 8.1 percent, City of Rio Dell 2.8 percent and City of Trinidad .4 percent) of TDA funds for the support of HTA. The member entity assessments have not been adjusted since 1976.



The Humboldt Transit Authority operates the Redwood Transit System (RTS) which provides bus service from Trinidad to Scotia. The "Mainline" route includes 3 stops in the City. One of the stops is located on Center Street. This stop does not have bus shelters. The bus stop on Rigby Avenue and Davis Street does include a bus shelter on the northbound route on the east side of Rigby. The third location is on Wildwood Avenue in front of City Hall. The northbound stop does have a bus shelter, but the southbound route does not.

The "Mainline" north route makes 8 stops a day during the week in the City and the south route makes 7 stops a day during the week. On Saturdays and Sundays there are 4 northbound and southbound stops in the City.

RTS also provides an "Intercity" route from Eureka to Garberville. The "Intercity" route includes a stop at the Davis Street and Highway 101 interchange. Both the northbound and southbound stops are poorly signed and do not include bus shelters. This route provides 4 weekday stops.

Other City public transit services, include Redwood Coast Transit (linking Crescent City and Humboldt County), Greyhound Bus Lines, AMTRAK, and City Cab.

4.8 Bicycle and Pedestrian Travel

The City of Rio Dell has limited non-motorized transportation facilities. There are a number of informal trails throughout the community that provide connections to the town center and neighborhood destinations, as well as access to the Eel River. City staff has participated in non-motorized transportation project identification for inclusion in several regionally significant transportation plans, such as the Humboldt Peopled Powered Pathways (HP3), the 2012 Regional Bicycle Plan and the 2010 Regional Trails Master Plan

This Plan supports improvements that accommodate bicycles, pedestrians, and the mobility-challenged population. These improvements mostly include sidewalks, crosswalks, trails, and bicycle lanes. While walking or cycling between destinations is a choice for some, it is a necessity for others who do not have access to motorized transport. Development of bicycle and pedestrian facilities can reduce vehicle miles traveled, enhance communities, increase the opportunities for an active and therefore healthy lifestyle, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Circulation Element provides the framework for developing a trail network or active transportation system in the City. The various types of natural surface, paved off-street trails and on-street facilities comprise the system.

The trail network will be comprised of a variety of trail types to accommodate different user groups and topography. The trail classification system is organized by natural and paved surface trail types, which are described below. The classification system is used to identify existing and proposed trails in Humboldt County.

Natural Surface Trails are primarily unpaved trails that serve a variety of recreational user groups and may occasionally serve transportation (e.g., commuter use) and local connectivity (e.g., school and local errand access) needs. Natural surface trails are classified into multipurpose, equestrian, and developed/improved trails.

Multipurpose Trails accommodate a wide variety of user groups. These paths, while constructed with native surface materials or compacted, crushed or granulated stone, provide wide treads and clearances (i.e., width varies from four feet to eight feet) potentially accommodating significant volumes of hikers, equestrians and bicyclists. Where hikers, bicyclists and equestrians are allowed on the same trail "Yield to" signage should be installed to notify users of rights-of-way.

Equestrian Trails should provide for local- and long-distance trail rides, and may also serve multiple user types. Basic dimensional requirements include an 18 to 36 inch wide trail tread and appropriate horizontal clearances. In high use and developed areas, a minimum tread width of seven to eight feet should be provided to allow for riding side by side as well as opportunities for passing when bidirectional movements are expected. Compacted natural soil is typically the preferred trail tread, but surfacing trails with crushed fines may be preferred in Humboldt County due to climate conditions.

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FIGURE 4-2
TRAILS DIAGRAM**